

the whole people.* The same result awaits the Catholic clergy of the Canadas when the people shall be crushed down.

In the United States the people seem to think that the same undue influence of the clergy exists in Lower Canada. We do not deny that the Catholic clergy has great influence both in the Upper and Lower Provinces; but as the people have become enlightened, so that influence has been decreasing for several years past. Witness, for example, the little attention the people paid to the pastoral letter of the Bishop of Montreal, addressed them in June, 1837, discountenancing and disapproving all political meetings.

The political corruption and venality of the Catholic and Episcopal clergy, in the Canadas, are so well known that ere long, nothing may be feared from the influence of either. Although the clergy have contributed much towards bringing destruction upon the unfortunate Acadians, yet we hope, in spite of their unhallowed zeal, to see the day that shall give Upper and Lower Canada a place among the nations of the earth.

Let us return from this digression to the Acadians. There were, about the time that they received the order to appear before Col. Winslow, from 17 to 20,000 Acadians inhabiting the richest and most fertile lands of the province; they possessed upwards of 600,000 head of horned cattle, 70,000 sheep, 50,000 hogs besides a great number of horses. As their circumstances were equidistant between poverty and wealth, and their habits and education in that simple medium state between barbarism and refinement, their condition probably embraced as much happiness as man can enjoy, or human nature is susceptible of, when the English set about destroying and driving them from the Colonies. A great number fled to the woods and took refuge with the Indians, and found among barbarians what was denied them by a civilized nation. A good portion of those who fled, escaped to Canada and the island of St. John, in an unimaginable state of suffering, leaving their families either in the most wretched state, exposed to all the inclemencies of a pitiless winter, in the woods unsheltered, where many died from cold and hunger, or exposed to the brutal treatment of a ferocious and licentious soldiery. Their villages were laid waste and their houses burnt to ashes. The whole of their establishments at Chignecto and Minas were levelled to the ground by fire, and the poor and miserable inhabitants deprived of a home, were forced to submit, or fly to the woods from whence they finally escaped to Canada, Prince Edward's Island and Cape Breton.

From 7 to 8000 in all, submitted to the unjust and cruel order of Major Lawrence and gave themselves up to Col. Winslow, to be disposed of according to the arbitrary will of the British commander, who immediately issued the order of banishing them from their country of their birth, to be scattered over his Majesty's American Colonies. Who can give a true picture of the agonizing feelings of those unfortunate men, when they learned that they were to be brutally taken from their homes by a foreign and tyrannical enemy, who had come with apparent friendship, to settle among them.

The aged father, whose hair was silvered over by the frost of time, living solely by the industry of an only son, saw him inhumanly dragged away without a prospect of ever again beholding him under the sorrowful conviction of ending his few and numbered days in the most deplorable wretchedness; the mother on the eve of closing her eyes in death, and at an age too advanced to support herself, beheld the beloved children, who performed the duties they owed to a parent, dragged from her forever by the ruthless hand of English despotism. The most sacred ties of civil society were violated by these fiends incarnate. The doating husband witnessed the wife of his bosom snatched from his embrace, and both were obliged to bid adieu, without a prospect of ever again beholding each other. To increase their insupportable miseries, the tender pledges of conjugal affection were torn from the bosoms of the authors of their existence. The brother, foaming with rage, but forced to yield to superior force, saw

* With some few honorable exceptions.

his trembling sister dragged by the brutal soldiers, fainting and almost lifeless, on board of vessels which were to transport them to destinations, to them unknown, and with the almost certain probability of never seeing each other again. Children yet at the breast were snatched from the bosoms of their disconsolate mothers and thrown on board of other vessels than those which were to convey the parents, these peculiar cares which are so much needed at that tender age. Who can describe such a scene? It belonged only to more cruel than brutes to inflict such unheard of sufferings upon this innocent and unfortunate people.

The brutal and cruel conduct of the Spaniards towards the Mexicans might be palliated, partially on account of the profound ignorance in which the Spaniards were steeped; and of the superstition encouraged and fostered by the monks, who then held complete sway over Spain and Portugal. But claiming, as the British do, to be the most enlightened and liberal on earth, there is no excuse for the barbarous conduct of that Government towards the poor Acadians. The British Government has ever pursued a dishonorable ambitious policy towards her colonies. Her inhuman conduct towards the Americans, who were its immediate descendants, shows a degree of moral degradation which can scarcely be found among uncivilized nations.

What regret the inhabitants of New England must have felt for having assisted the English government in destroying the unfortunate Acadians, when, a few years afterwards, they were themselves obliged to raise the standard of rebellion against their cruel Mother, who had sought the destruction of the Province of Acadia, with the hope of suppressing effectually the spirit of liberty in America. Oh, unfortunate Tories of Lower Canada, who now support English tyranny, and allow yourselves to be prejudiced against a portion of the republicans of that province, because they speak not the same language and profess not the same church as yours, reflect seriously upon your conduct! When the unfortunate French Canadians will have been annihilated, as Lord Durham proposes, see you not that after all hope on the part of the French inhabitants shall be extinct, that Great Britain, to reward your loyalty, will attempt to impose upon you a Colonial vassalage to which all honest men will refuse to submit? Was that not the intention of the British Government when it persecuted the Acadians? They saw that liberal principles increased rapidly among the inhabitants of these American Colonies and they wished to nip it in the bud. Canadian Tories, who are so in sincerity, open your eyes ere it be too late, and withdraw your support from a government created to render its people unhappy, and to impose upon them most enormous and unjust taxes.

CANADA.

From the Metropolis.

The liberty of the press and the freedom of speech is muzzled by the gleam of transatlantic bayonets. On our very borders—upon the same continent with ourselves, exists a military despotism as relentless as ever disgraced the rude ages of Vandal barbarity. Near a million of people, qualified by association, by intelligence and religious civilization to enjoy the full measure of free government, are awed by the omnipotent power of might, to submit to the grossest tyranny of which this age has been a witness, and yet we are called upon even by our public journals to withhold so much as our sympathy! The failure of the Canadian people to effect a revolution, demanded by every consideration which should be dear to freemen, is no sufficient cause for us to withhold our sympathy. The object is worthy of our most hallowed aspirations—is worthy of the age and of any people, and if they failed to effect their object, their helplessness should command our warmest commiseration instead of exciting us to denunciation. Success would have placed the Canadian Revolution along side of that which gained us the blessings of the free government we now enjoy, and each revolving year would have borne upon the breeze across this continent the glad tidings of the celebration of the anniversary of the birth of a new Republic. Papienau would have been the Jefferson of the age, and Nelson and Mackenzie would have had their names enrolled on the scroll of fame, in the niche with Washington and Lafayette, as the deliverers of their country. Davignon and Demary would have been hailed as martyrs of liberty, and the butcheries of St. Eustache and St.

Charles would have been stigmatized as a disgrace to the civilization of the age.

The name of McNab, of Colborne and of Gosford, would have been 'damned to everlasting fame,' as unit associates even of the butcher Santa Anna. And shall not this just and righteous decision of the acts and actors connected with the Canada civil war, be sanctioned by the American people? Will they deny to an oppressed and humble people those sympathies which would have been given to their success in one loud acclamation from one end of the Union to the other? Can servile pusillanimity beset interwoven with the freemen of the United States to cause them to take sides with the powerful and unjust oppressors against the weak and borne down oppressed? I shall never believe it until I see it verified in the cold indifference or more fearfully apprehended active opposition of the people at large. But if I should be deceived in relation to the feelings of the people of this country upon this subject, I have the consolation to believe that impartial history and fearless posterity will do justice between the two parties, and assign the true motives for the conduct of each. Upon that decision the Canadian Patriots may rely with a satisfaction unalloyed by any ingredient of dishonorable intentions.

Who noble ends by noble means obtains,
Or failing, smiles in exile or in chains,
Like good Aurelius let him reign or bleed,
Like Socrates—that man is great indeed."

From the Plattsburgh Republican.

Day after day, and week after week, it is our lot to read the chimerical effusions of the Canada editors, abetting every hostile and lawless manœuvre of their government, and denouncing, by wholesale, every action of ours. We are too well aware of the unity and unrivalled strength of these United States, to regard the insolent tirade of abuse of the Tory press in the Canadas, with any other feelings than those of the most unqualified contempt; and we fling back with scorn and derision their futile charges and blustering threats. The low ebb of degradation to which these trumpet-tongued scribblers are reduced, is truly pitiable. No epithets are too vulgar or scurrilous—no menaces too Quixotic—no opinions too absurd for them to circulate. After emptying the 'vials of their wrath' upon the Government of the United States, the last venomous shaft of their implacable animosity is levelled at our gallant militia. Now, waving more than a passing remark on the indigenous and rancorous hostility which the minions of England bear towards this country, we will merely allude to the gross and benighted ignorance that characterizes every word and action of theirs. They know and feel that we have, on two memorable occasions, torn the crescent from the brow of majesty, and they wince at the recollection. They know that our young Republic has already far outstripped and surpassed the mammoth power of Great Britain; they are aware that they can never cope with us in wealth or resources, and that ere our glorious commonwealth shall have reached the meridian of her power and glory, England may be trampled under foot by a race of enervate slaves. They see the ramparts of that decaying empire totter and give way; and this unconquerable Republic that has given the first check to Britain's progressive march, rising like a meteor, to dazzle and to rule. The flame of liberty has been extinguished in ancient Greece and Rome; but ere the embers had lost every resuscitating principle, America caught and fostered in her bosom the glowing of their light—the sun of liberty that set in those countries, and left their horizon beclouded, now scatters its brilliant coruscations over this western hemisphere. Hence all the corroding spleen and embittered malignity of 'bankrupt and crest fallen England.'

But the idle and overweening tone, in which the Canada editors speak of our strength, is a signal proof of their ignorance. They know as little about our inexhaustible resources, as they do of the Koran. They merely crossed the Atlantic, and squatted down in the ice-bound hamlets of Canada; and there they set brooding over the inveterate hatred they cherish towards Americans. We can tell these braggart editors at the north of us, that the half of this state could turn into the field a force powerful enough to sweep every stielker for monarchy on this continent into the Atlantic. These creatures of ultra Toryism carry their folly to such extremes as even to abuse and vilify every member of the British parliament who has the candor to confess that our government has been scrupulously vigilant of their international relations with England during the two last years;—meanwhile they laud to the skies the belligerent speeches of Peel, Wellington and others. It remains for us to learn how far these outpourings of coxcomb vanity and dotting pride on the part of Wellington and his compeers are to be carried.

The Montreal Herald reports upon good authority, about a fortnight since, that new organizations were in progress, but that their rising would this year depend on the results of the invasion of New Brunswick. At all events there would be no rebellion before the harvest should be secured in the barns; they might then look for a repitition.

Indeed! the Herald expected wonders from the rigorous measures adopted against

the insurgents; he called for blood, to operate as an example, this life-taking was to compel every one to act a dutiful part. We see to day the very reverse; we maintained that clemency was the surest means to recall the people to their duty. According to the Herald, our advice was far preferable, although our Editor and Printer were rewarded with lodgings in the Jail. But we live in times when martyrs for truth and justice must suffer with resignation.—Q. Canadian.

The volunteers of Cornwall, U. C. burned Lord Brougham, in effigy on account of his recent speech on Canada.

The author of Sam Slick, Mr. Haliburton of Nova Scotia, now in London, has resumed his pen to correct several errors in Lord Durham's report, relative to Nova Scotia. If there were any one now in London, to commence a similar operation upon that portion of it relating to Lower Canada—he would find sufficient materials therein, particularly those parts relating to French Canadians and their politics. This report containing some truths, many correct remarks, and a few high-minded sentiments, nevertheless presents remarkable errors in judgment and experience, several unjust accusations against the Canadians, with illiberal remarks and uncharitable feelings towards them. With the data in possession of the Commissioners, and the correction of some glaring errors, very different conclusions upon many points would be arrived at. This report, if prepared with as much sincerity and good faith as is pretended, is still another proof that the English Aristocracy cannot form an impartial decision between us, French Canadians and our enemies, who have the happiness of not being original sinners!

This report in spite of impediments arising from our national descent, establishes this important truth, one most honorable to us, that we have ever been the Champions of Constitutional Liberty in the British Colonies on this Continent, and that they are indebted to us for all the advantages to result from Lord Durham's report are due to our acts—if we are to be drowned, as the report recommends, we can transcribe from Virgil, upon the columns of the Provincial Parliament,

Sic vos non vobis fertis aratra boves
Sic vos non vobis melificatis apes.

Q. Canadian.

NORTH AMERICAN:

SWANTON, APRIL 18, 1839.

The Packet Philadelphia which left Liverpool on the 8th March, arrived at Philadelphia bringing news to the date of her departure. The English frigate despatched by Sir John Harvey had reached Plymouth, taking there the unexpected intelligence that the Maine troops were marching upon the disputed territory. If the public press be an index of public opinion—we may look for serious consequences, if the excited and inflammatory feelings were shared by the Ministry and the English Parliament. The Tory prints are more violent than the ministerial organs—the former are using the present situation of affairs as a powerful argument for ousting the present ministry and reinstating the old Nobility.

The Great Western expected daily at New York, will probably bring out the first debates in the English Parliament upon this important subject.

Continued Outrages!

Scarcely a night passes without some new attempts being made by assassins in the pay of the British, to murder U. S. citizens. On Friday night they fired several shots at the guards in Highgate, but fortunately none of them took effect. The result of the Caroline outrage has made them bold. Let the refugees have the arms they have been robbed of by authority of the *partiality law*, and the Tories along the Canada frontier would not visit the people on this side with firebrands quite as often as they have of late.

There are at the present moment some 19 or 20 state prisoners in the jail at Sherbrooke, L. C., most of whom have been there ever since the month of Nov. last without a trial,—without an accusation or a shadow of proof against them. Some of these men are aged and feeble, and have been thrown into prison only to gratify the malignant feelings of the Tories. L. L. Channell, last year a law student in this village, and his brother-in-law, J. C. Tuck, are of the number, and it is believed that they are

imprisoned at the instance of a loyal Yankee who shelters under their roof. The prisoners have petitioned the bloody Colborne for a trial, but to show his lenity we think he will open the prison doors to them without a trial.

State of Vermont
vs.
C. Beaumont,
B. Viger,
A. Tetro,
F. Leclerc

We promised last week some further particulars in relation to the arrest and examination of the Refugees on suspicion of having been concerned in the burning of a barn belonging to one of Her Majesty's subjects, in Canada. It seems that on the 10th inst. a complaint was made by the Grand Juror of Highgate, and a warrant issued on said complaint, and the men arrested & examined the same day, before the Hon. Judge Turner, of St. Albans. Four officers of the general gov. were called in to aid the States Attorney in the prosecution, and every exertion was made to convict them if possible. A certain class of the public had prejudged the case against the persons accused; for the fire, whether the result of accident or design, had burned the property of a loyalist. The complaint being read before the court, the counsel for the respondents demurred generally, upon the ground that a conspiracy entered into in this State, to burn in the province of Lower Canada, as set forth in the declaration, was no violation of our laws; but the court over-ruled the objection, and proceeded to investigate the charges against the prisoners. Sixteen witnesses were called in on the part of the State. The investigation occupied the greater part of nine hours; and notwithstanding the prosecuting Attornies were very vigilant in the discharge of their duties, yet we are informed that the trial was conducted in a fair and impartial manner, and finally resulted in the honourable discharge of all the respondents. The testimony on behalf of the State (the refugees having introduced none,) showed conclusively that it was utterly impossible for any of them to have been guilty of the act of which they had been accused, or to have been within three miles of Millar's at the time of the fire.

ITEMS.—Admiral Paget is dead. The New Brunswickers don't like the idea of a legislative union with the Canadas. While the Canada Tories are burning on this side of the line Lieut. Sawyer, stationed at Derby to maintain the majesty of a sovereign people, boards with Her Majesty, just across the line. Only 8 untried state prisoners remain now in jail at Montreal, among them Benj. Mott of Alburgh, Vt. who was to have been tried yesterday. General Pierce, ex-Gov. of N. H. is dead, and the Duke of Wellington is going to die. Miss Victoria has had a quarrel with one of her waiting-maids.

The Political Prisoners confined in the Jail at Quebec, were to be liberated under bail, on the 13th inst. Messrs Baron Fratellin and Hunter are excepted from this lenity.